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Nathan Deal
Congress of the United States

Committee on
Energy and Commerce
Subcommittee on Health
Ranking Member

Subcommittee on
Communications, Technology,
and the Internet

Subcommittee on
Oversight and Investigations

The Honorable David Obey, Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
H-218, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Jerry Lewis, Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
H-218, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Obey and Ranking Member Lewis,

I am requesting funding in the FY10 Energy and Water Development Appropriations bill, Construction General account for the US Army Corp of Engineers. The entity to receive funding for this project is the US Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District. It is my understanding that the funding would be used to deepen the Savannah River Federal navigation channel from -42 feet MLW to as much as -48 feet MLW, allowing the GPA to more efficiently serve the demands of U.S. Commerce; remain a valuable asset to the marine transportation system; and handle the currently constrained vessels calling the port, as well as the larger vessels expected to call the port following the Panama Canal expansion. Funding of \$33,725,000 is necessary to begin construction of the SHEP. While the Record of Decision will not be signed until mid-2010, these funds can be used for final pre-construction monitoring and engineering design of the channel and mitigation components for the project. Additionally, these funds will be needed immediately after project approval for negotiation of the Project Partnership Agreement. Construction contracts cannot be awarded prior to the completion of this agreement.

I certify that this project does not have a direct and foreseeable effect on the pecuniary interests of my spouse or me. I hereby certify that this request will be made publicly available on my Official Website as required by the Committee, that only posted requests will be considered.

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Consistent with the Republican Leadership's policy on earmarks, I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge this request: (1) is not directed to an entity or program that will be named after a sitting Member of Congress; (2) is not intended to be used by an entity to secure funds for other entities unless the use of funding is consistent with the specified purpose of the earmark; and (3) meets or exceeds all statutory requirements for matching funds where applicable. I further certify that should this request be included in the bill, I will place a statement in the *Congressional Record* describing how the funds will be spent and justifying the use of federal taxpayer funds.

Sincerely,


Nathan Deal